Opening of branch post office in Vasant Vihar

3710. SHRI T. R. BALU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that no branch post office has been opened so far in Vasant Vihar Central Government Housing Complex where more than 2500 people are residing; and

(b) if so what are the reasons for the delay in opening a post office there and what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) There are two post offices at present functioning in the area, namely, Vasant Vihar I and Vasant Vhiar II. In addition, construction is going on for a departmental building for a third post office (Vasant Lok). The new building which is under construction is at a distance of only half a kilometer from the Central Government Housing Complex.

Conversion of Manually Operated Telephone Exchanges

3711. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of telephone exchanges in Andhra Pradesh excluding Hyderabad Telephone District;

(b) how many of them are electronic exchanges;

(c) whether there is any proposal to replace some of the manually operated exchanges by automatic exchanges; and

(d) if so, by when Government propose to complete this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The number of telephone exchanges in Andhra Pradesh excluding those under Hyderabad telephone district is 1924.

(b) There are 26 electronic exchanges.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The manual exchanges are being automatised in a phased manner subject to availability of equipment, it is expected that all manual exchanges will be automatised by end of the 8th Five Year Plan.

Work of Technology Mission in Andhra Pradesh

3712. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what specific projects are under consideration of the Telecommunications technology mission for Andhra Pradesh;

(b) to what extent the work of the technology mission would cover Andhra Pradesh during the last two years of Seventh Five Year Plan Period; and

(c) what additional inputs have been channelised to Andhra Pradesh under the technology mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The important specific projects planned for Andhra Pradesh under Technoloby Missions on Telecommunications are given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(b) Technology Mission on Telecommunications will cover the following activities during last two years of Seventh Five Year Plan:—

(i) Improve Quality of Service.

(ii) Increase Urban PCOs.

(iii) Improve Delivery of Telegrams.

(iv) Provide Telex on demand.

(v) Improve Rural Communications and

(vi) Induct Digital Electronic Equipment as part of National Digital Network.

(c) Telecom. Mission forms an integral part of Department's activities and input allocations have been made for Andhra Pradesh as part of Annual Action Plan of the Department.

Statement

Specific Projects under consideration of the Telecommunications Technology Mission for Andhra Pradesh

- Instal Digita Tax of 2500 lines at Hyderabad.
- Expand Telex Service by opening new exchanges at Hyderabad, Patancheru and Vijayawada and notional exchnges at 11 stations.
- Replace 6100 lines of Electro-mechanical exchanges by Electronic exchanges in Hyderabad.
- Replace 19 Electro-mechanical Telex Exchange (970 lines) by Electronic Telex Exchanges.
- Provide 76 Long Distance Public Telephones by installing Radio Systems (MARR).
- Instal 230 small exchanges in rural areas.
- Improve trunk service by computerisation at Hyderabad and 7 small centres in Andhra Pradesh.
- Induct optical fibre system in Hyderabad.
- Improve delivery of telegrams by installing 128 lines SFMSS system at Hyderabad and 48 Electronic Key Board concentrators at nodal points.
- Computerise Directory Enquiry at Vijayawada.

Conversion of Hyderabad Telephones

3713. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with the Central Government to replace all telephone exchanges in Hyderabad telephone district by electronic exchanges;

(b) if so, to what extent this replacement has taken place so far; and

(c) by when Government propose to complete this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) The replacement programme is a continuous process depending on the availability of resources.

So far, 2500 lines at Saifabad and 2200 lines at Secunderabad and satellite exchanges at Saroornagar, Chandrayangutta, Rajendra Nagar, Golconda, Taranaka and Cantonment have been replaced by electronic exchanges in Hyderabad Telephones.

STD Facility in U. P.

3714. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the districts in Uttar Pradesh which have not yet been linked with STD facility; and

(b) by when Government propose to link Barabanki and Farrukhabad districts with STD facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) 15 district headquarters in Uttar Pradesh namely, Gonda, Hardoi, Lalitpur, Azamgarh, Ballia, Bahraich, Barabanki, Chamoli, Ghazipur, Hamirpur, Jhansi, Farukhabad, Tehri, Deoria and Uttarkashi have not yet been linked with STD facility.

(b) Barabanki and Farukhabad are proposed to be provided with STD facility by the end of Seventh Plan.

Rural Communication Services

3715. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target date to equip every village with Post Office as well as public call office; and